## **Media Advisory**

U.S. Department of the Interior Minerals Management Service Office of Public Affairs

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## MMS to Hold Beaufort Sea Lease Sale 202

Bid Opening in Anchorage

**ANCHORAGE** – The Department of the Interior's Minerals Management Service (MMS) will open bids for oil and gas leases in Federal Beaufort Sea Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Sale 202 on April 18. MMS Regional Director John Goll will announce the results of the sale immediately after the bid reading. Mr. Goll will be available for interviews immediately after the sale.

On April 12, 2007, the U.S. District Court for the District of Alaska denied a motion by the North Slope Borough and the Alaska Eskimo Whaling Commission for a preliminary injunction to enjoin the sale. This allows the MMS to proceed with the Sale.

Sale 202 includes approximately 8.7 million acres offshore Alaska's northern coast in the Beaufort Sea and extends from the Canadian border on the east to near Barrow on the west. The sale includes a package of economic incentives, in addition to special requirements for safeguarding the bowhead whale subsistence hunt in the area. Sale 202 is the third sale in the federal portion of the Beaufort Sea since 1998. The State of Alaska holds annual sales in State waters.

What: Beaufort Sea Lease Sale 202

When: 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Where: Wilda Marston Theatre

Loussac Library 3600 Denali Street Anchorage, Alaska

Relevent Web Site: mms.gov/alaska

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